

STATEMENT II

1. Population

In normal areas the aggregate population in a group of villages will be 3000 and in the hilly, tribal, desert and in accessible areas the population in an individual village will be 500 or 1000 in group of villages.

2. Distance

The minimum distance between a proposed post office and the nearest existing post office will be 3 kms. In the case of hilly areas the minimum distance limit can be relaxed in special cases.

3. Anticipated Income

In the normal areas the minimum anticipated revenue will be 33½% of the cost and in hilly, tribal, desert and inaccessible areas the same will be 15% of the cost.

[Translation]

Conversion of Manual Telephone Exchanges into Automatic Exchanges in U.P.

548. SHRI V. N. SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programme to convert manual telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh and Jhansi in particular, into automatic exchanges;

(b) whether the communication system in Hamirpur district of Bundel Khand is not functioning satisfactorily; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps being taken to set this system in order?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Out of 1238 telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh, 35 were manual exchanges as on 1-4-1991. All these 35 are proposed

to be automated progressively by March, 93.

At Jhansi, the installation of 4,000 lines electronic exchange (E 10 B) is in progress and is expected to be commissioned by 31-3-1992.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Pepper Research Institute in Idukki District of Kerala

549. SHRI PALAK K. M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a Research Institute in Idukki District of Kerala exclusively for conducting research on the causes leading to quickwilt, fleabeetle diseases in peppervines;

(b) if so, the time by which the Research Institute is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The research on causes leading to quickwilt and fleabeetle in pepper vine is already being carried out at the National Research Centre for Spices, Calicut and at the Pepper Research Station, Panniyur, Kannanoor District.

[Translation]

Out of Turn Telephone Connections

550. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections sanctioned out-of-turn from January, 1991 to June 1991 in the country month-wise; and